



# ***HUNTING TRAILS***

## ***CARTRIDGES & ARROWS***



*Newsletter for the Missouri Department of Conservation's  
Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, & Shooting Programs*

*Volume 1, Issue 9*

*"Over 1 Million Served"*

*May - August 2010*

## **2009 Missouri State Hunter/Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year Award Winners Announced**



Winners pictured left to right; Bowhunter Education Tom Dickerson, Conservation Agent Danny "Tim" Tallent, MDC Staff Charles "Alan" Reed and Hunter Education Linda DuBrul

At its January 28, 2010 monthly meeting the Missouri Conservation Commission publicly recognized the 2009 Missouri State Hunter/Bowhunter Instructor of the Year Award winners. Commission Chair, Chip McGeehan

presented each award winner with a special plaque and frame print in recognition of their achievement and selection from over 2,000 instructors state-wide. The evening before the award winners attended a dinner in their honor, allowing

### **In This Issue**

2009 Award Winners	1-3	KC Region, Sedalia/Clinton Dist.	7	Henges Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	14-15
Coordinator's Corner	3	Central Region	7-8	Dalton Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	15
MidwayUSA Endowment	4	Northeast Region	8-9	Parma Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	15-16
MHHF Celebrates	3-4	Southeast Region	9	Instructor Discounts	16
Youth Spring Turkey Clinic	5	Southwest Region	10-11	Because You Asked	16
Why weren't you there?	5-6	Kansas City Region, Metro Dist.	11-12	Lake City Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	17
New Student HE Tests	6	Northwest Region	12-13	When I Grew Up	18-19
Opinions On Hunting	6	St. Louis Region	13-14	50 Years, call for pictures & stories	19
Ozark Region	6-7	Busch Range & Outdoor Ed. Ctr.	14	Welcome New Instructors	19

leadership a chance to congratulate them personally, plus time for some camaraderie and good food. Winners were provided a room at the Capital Plaza Hotel to enjoy the whole experience of the dinner, Commission Meeting and winning these prestigious awards.

Two new awards were presented for the first time this year. The Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year Award recognizes the increased popularity of archery and bowhunting and increased demands for Bowhunter Education courses. The MDC Staff Hunter/Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year Award recognizes the importance and dedicated work by MDC staff other than our Conservation Agents.

***Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor of the Year  
Mrs. Linda J. DuBrul – Southwest Region***

Linda was certified as both a Hunter Education Instructor and a Bowhunter Education Instructor on December 2008. She may have been a new instructor, but she literally hit the ground running, helping with her first class on December 20, 2008! During her first full year as an instructor, Linda assisted with three traditional classes, and four on-line field days. She has also provided Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education program support to the local Outdoor Skills Specialist. Linda helped teach a Discover Nature Women's Introduction to Rifle Shooting for 22 ladies, helped supervise two of four shooting lanes at the Ft. Crowder shooting range, helped teach archery as part of a Discover Nature Family program and helped teach archery to forty-four 5th grade students. Staying current in her skills is important to Linda, demonstrated by her certifications as a NRA Rifle, Pistol Instructor, National Archery Association Level One Instructor, National Archery in the Schools Program Basic Archery Instructor, Certified Ropes Course Facilitator, and American Camp Association Standards Instructor. She is also certified in Basic First Aid, CPR and Small Craft Safety, and a licensed Amateur Radio Operator! As you can see, Linda is a busy lady, but she still finds time to volunteer in her community. She is a lead archery instructor (supervising four teams of instructors) for NRA's Women's Wilderness Escape, a nine-day program for women held in New Mexico. For the past 13 years, Linda was the Girl Scout's Outdoor Program Director for 25 counties, teaching camping, backpacking, canoeing, challenge course, nature discovery, archery and rifle. Linda will continue to be a role model for others to follow.

***Volunteer Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year  
(first year for this award)***

***Mr. Thomas "Tom" L. Dickerson – Southeast Region***

Tom is a walking encyclopedia of bowhunting techniques and equipment. He is one of only two Master Bowhunter Instructors in his region and a primary trainer for bowhunter instructors seeking advanced training, creating bowhunter scenarios, including blood trails and distance estimation for

existing instructors. Tom's students learn through doing; he teaches through experiences and illustrative techniques that bring the information to life for the students. He is always seeking out new instructors and recruited a local Christian bowhunters chapter to become bowhunter education instructors. Tom regularly travels around the country, volunteering his time representing Missouri bowhunters. Tom also provided program support to local staff. He has helped with the Woods event for mentally and physically disabled, Bowhunter Rendezvous, Cape Girardeau Jakes Day, MoNASP State Tournament, Friend of the NRA events, Missouri Deaf Camp, Hand Camp of Shriner's Hospital, and United Bowhunter's of Missouri Festival and Rendezvous. Tom's credentials are a testament to his dedication to hunting and the shooting sports. He is the past Affiliate Director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri and current Chairman of the Archery Committee, current member on the board of directors (and past President) for the United Bowhunters of Missouri, and as a representative for Missouri on the North American Bowhunting Coalition, he traveled to Denver to be part of a coalition meeting. He has also played an active role in the renovation of the MDC archery range at Maintz CA. An active member of his community through his church and Knights of Columbus, Tom's passion and dedicated service makes him a perfect choice for this award. The local staff who prepared this nomination stated "Tom is one of the most ethical, talented, gracious and humbled sportsman they know."

***MDC Staff Hunter/Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year (first year for this award)***

***Mr. Charles "Alan" Reed – Southwest Region***

Alan was certified as a Hunter Education Instructor in August, 2005. He serves as the site coordinator for the hunter education programs at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center and coordinates the help of 12 separate hunter education instructors. A constant source of new ideas, Alan invariably submits well thought out and thoroughly evaluated ideas to improve hunter education in his region and throughout the state. When this past year's new student test rolled out, Alan stepped up and created a "cheat sheet" that was used statewide, to help his fellow instructors locate answers to the questions in the new student and instructor manuals. Alan uses a team approach when coordinating the volunteers he leads and even takes them out for a special dinner at his expense. Knowing the value of having female hunter education instructors in the class room to encourage and teach female hunter education students, Alan makes a special effort to recruit and retain female hunter education instructors. Alan has a true love of the outdoors and sincere desire to teach it to others outside of his hunter education duties. He leads the Teen Club program for youth ages 12 -17, taking them on excursions for overnight camping, hiking, snorkeling, fishing, canoeing, caving, and shooting at the Andy Dalton range. He designed an extremely popular

program entitled “You Go Game”, where he solicited for donated wild game and talked about handling meat properly. He then had everyone take part in field dressing the game, and finally talked about how to prepare it from the recipe book each received. Alan is also a certified MoNASP Basic Archery Instructor and works hard to promote and teach archery to people of all ages. While Alan regularly comments on how much he enjoys working for the Department, he also receives many thank you’s from kids and parents who participated in his programs. One parent wrote, “...Alan and his group of volunteers did an outstanding job of teaching the group (many of whom were younger hunters. My son learned a great deal about safety and the many native species of wildlife around this area. He was so excited about what these instructors do and have done that he has decided to take up bow hunting.

***Conservation Agent Hunter/Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year***

***Agent Danny “Tim” Tallent – St. Louis Region***

Conservation Agent Tim Tallent goes out of his way to provide a quality hunter education program in his district, as well as youth and community hunting and fishing related programs. He spends a great deal of time not only holding classes in his county, but taking on the role as Chief Instructor and assisting with classes outside his area, teaching six classes and reaching over 175 students this year alone. Tim works very well with community organizations and businesses to enhance his programs. Working with sheriff’s departments and county court systems, his efforts secured 27 firearms through court orders to use in student courses. Local businesses regularly provide soda and pizza at his course in Cuba, MO. While teaching Survival & First Aid (chapter 8), Tim invites the local EMTs and Paramedics for the Crawford County Ambulance District to speak to all of the classes about first aid and any outdoor related injuries. Always thinking of new ways to reach youth, Agent Tallent donated a “Hunt with Your Agent” youth turkey hunt for a local school fund raiser that netted \$400. The winning 9-year old boy, along with his father, were treated to a hunt of a lifetime that saw the youth bag his first gobbler on his first ever hunt. Hunter Education is not the only program Tim gives his time to. He coordinated a Safety Day/Career Day exhibit for Sullivan High School, helped with the Disabled Youth Hunt, assisted with a 4H Archery Safety Program, taught archery and fishing to the COPS Camps at the YMCA in Potosi, and gave a presentation to a Sullivan FFA Chapter on hunter education, safe gun handling and hunting incidents. Tim willingly and freely gives of his personal time and energy to youth and his community; he is an assistant coach for his son’s Little League Baseball team, is a school board member for St. Anthony’s School and a Jakes Event Coordinator for the Meramec Valley Strutters Chapter, to name a few.

The two volunteer award winners then competed against

each other to be Missouri’s nomination for the International Hunter Education Association’s (IHEA) Federal Ammunition/ATK Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor of the Year Award. Linda DuBrul was selected to be Missouri’s nominee.

The two MDC staff award winners then competed against each other to be Missouri’s nomination for the International Hunter Education Association’s (IHEA) “Professional of the Year” Award. Conservation Agent Tim Tallent was selected to be Missouri’s nominee.

Please congratulate all of them when you get a chance or meet them and wish our international nominees good luck. The IHEA award winners will be announced and presented at the IHEA Annual Conference Saturday, June 5, 2010 at Estes Park in Colorado.



***Coordinator’s  
Corner***

Hunter Education & Range Coordinator

***Tony L. Legg***

***tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov***

Well, it has been a great start to the New Year. We had the selection of talented instructors for our annual award winners and we are all looking forward to see two of them receive international recognition for their hard work and efforts. Regional banquets were fantastic this year, as always, and it was great to see so many faces at these events. When the numbers are tallied, I think we will see a dramatic rise in instructors attending the regional events.

MHEIA had a well attended annual conference this year and my hat’s off to all those on the board that made it happen. It was great to talk with so many instructors and ole’ friends at the banquets and the conference, answer questions and get some good feedback, along with information and ideas from everyone. As always, wish we had more time to meet and swap stories. Of course we had some great bidding wars on the silent auction again this year, all of which I lost!

We have had a few hard working meetings so far this year: a 12-member HE Testing Committee developed new tests for this coming July; an Instructor Training and Certification Summit was held with 40 volunteer and staff representatives from all the regions across the state attending. We will be setting up a committee of volunteers and staff to look at ideas and information from this summit and help plan the future standards for training and certifying new Missouri HE/BHE Instructors.

I hope everyone had a great spring turkey season and that some of you also made plans and are going to attend the IHEA Annual Conference in Estes Park, Colorado. It looks to be a wonderful one, held at a great place to see the splendor of our great country and its spectacular wildlife. Hope to see you there!



## MidwayUSA Establishes Endowment to Benefit Young Shooters in Missouri



Imperial, MO - The Missouri Youth Sport Shooting Alliance (MYSSA) is pleased to announce the creation of the Larry & Brenda Potterfield Endowment which has been established to support youth shooting programs in Missouri. Established with a generous \$100,000 donation by the Potterfields, the endowment will allow MYSSA to continue offering assistance to various organizations to help realize the organization's goal of making safe shooting sports accessible to all Missouri youth.

MYSSA was founded in 2006. Its mission is to bring together all youth shooting programs in the state. Today MYSSA represents over 21,000 Missouri youth, each of whom will have firsthand experience with the shooting sports each year.

MYSSA continues to grow as shooting sports programs from across the state join the organization as affiliate members, providing the lifeblood necessary to keep the program vibrant and relevant for today's young shooters.

MYSSA has accomplished some notable achievements in the few years of its existence. The Alliance facilitates the training of excellent shooting coaches to help assure that young shooters have qualified leaders as they enjoy and gain proficiency in the sport. The first statewide event hosted by MYSSA was the MYSSA Fall Classic trap shooting competition, which was a remarkable success as it drew nearly 300 young shooters from across the state to compete in Linn Creek, Mo.

Larry Potterfield, Founder and CEO of MidwayUSA, is a longtime friend of youth shooting programs. He and wife Brenda are founders of the Scholastic Shooting Trust Fund, which was created to raise money for shooting teams for high schools, colleges, and universities all over America.

For more information about the Potterfields or MidwayUSA, visit [www.midwayusa.com](http://www.midwayusa.com) or call 1-800-243-3220.

For more information about the Missouri Youth Sport Shooting Alliance, visit [www.moyouthshooting.org](http://www.moyouthshooting.org)

## MISSOURI HUNTING HERITAGE FEDERATION CELEBRATES LEADERSHIP, CONTINUED GROWTH AND EXPANSION:



*By Allan Hoover, MHHF Executive Director*

On January 17, 2010, MHHF members and guests packed the private dining room of the Jumpin' Catfish Restaurant in

Lee's Summit, MO for their Annual Social. Special guests included MDC Director Bob Ziehmer and his family, and State Hunter Ed Coordinator Tony Legg and his wife, Susan. A Power Point presentation of 2009 in review highlighted the members' recent accomplishments, which currently include conducting a total of twenty events in eight counties for 131 participants since the program began.

So far, in 2010 dedicated members and participants braved extreme weather conditions during a January clinic/deer hunt; defended their classroom against the onslaught of a raging grass fire during the March clinic/chukar hunt, and overcame busy schedules to simultaneously conduct three clinics in three counties during the youth turkey season weekend in April.

MHHF officers and directors routinely demonstrate their leadership through involvement in a wide array of activities related to the MHHF mission, which is "..... to work in concert with similar minded entities to enhance the Missouri hunter education program by striving to ensure the continuation of the hunting tradition." Recent examples include participating in a review of the hunter education course exam, participating in a summit on hunter education instructor training, and successfully sponsoring a resolution in support of the Cooperative North American Shotgunning Education Program (CONSEP) during the Conservation Federation of Missouri Annual Conference. PowerPoint presentations, like the one made during the CFM Annual Meeting, are also utilized to spread the word about MHHF and the clinic model.

Several members are making plans to attend the International Hunter Education Association Annual Conference, June 2-5 in Estes Park, CO. The next quarterly board meeting is June 13 at the Independence Bass Pro. Plans are currently underway for the annual meeting September 12, also at the Independence Bass Pro.

Expansion efforts resume with a total of ten clinics scheduled in 2010, including a June clinic/squirrel hunt in Mexico, MO. Recognizing that expansion depends as much on increasing membership as on fund-raising; MHHF continues efforts to attract new members who are dedicated to preserving the hunting heritage through support of the hunter education clinic program. MHHF has nearly achieved the goal of doubling its membership for the third consecutive year.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation, the hunter education clinic model, or membership opportunities in MHHF can visit the web site at [www.mhhf.us](http://www.mhhf.us) or contact Executive Director Allan Hoover at [allan@mhhf.us](mailto:allan@mhhf.us).

Without hunting big farms would start to plow up hedgerows, cut timber and brushy fields, and otherwise alter their land to make the habitat undesirable for wildlife that feed on their crops. - Frank Miniter

## Youth Spring Turkey Clinic hosted by Johnny and Linda Everhart

By: Tim Moore, HE Instructor Lafayette County

The date was April 3, 2010. The location was Johnny and Linda's Wilderness Lodge. Before us was forty-five (45) anxious youths waiting for the event to start. Here I was thinking, "What did I volunteer for when Mark Miller called me two weeks ago?" Oh well, might as well get started. I had my wife, Priscilla, a close friend and fellow Hunter Ed instructor Mike Mansell and his wife Karen at my side to assist. Somehow I was able to convince them to give up their Saturday to help with this event. But really all I had to say it was a YOUTH CLINIC and they were on board.

After opening remarks by Johnny Everhart, the participants divided into four groups. Group one started with making Turkey Calls using common materials. Group two showed how to use different turkey calls to imitate and attract turkeys in the wild. Group three had a field experience where instructors took the group through the woods scouting for ideal spots to set up for a hunt as well as shoot/ don't shoot scenarios. Then we had Group four where my help and I were set up. This was the shotgun patterning section.

MDC also had their archery shooting area set up close by for those who were waiting their turn at the patterning board. We had the ladies set up a table and be the staging area for these eager young hunters. Mike and I took turns collecting one of the youths from the staging area, then set-up at 25 yards and let the youth fire one round at one of the targets we had placed. We then moved back 15 yards from the target and let the youth shoot at the other target from a distance of 40 yards. The point in this exercise was to show how much one might lose in shot effectiveness at just a short distance further from the target.

We also had a pop can mounted on a stick just 15 yards so the youth could see the actual damage that a shotgun was capable of inflicting. We then made sure the firearm was safe and went and retrieved the targets and put up new targets for the next shooter. While we took the shooter and targets to a safe area to discuss how the shotgun pattern, the other mentor took the next youth to the shooting area and proceeded to perform the same three shots.

After each group finished their session they rotated to the next station. We were able to cycle two groups through the station before we broke for a lunch supplied by Johnny and gang. We then started up again after lunch and got the last two groups through.

When we were done, we were exhausted but it was that good type of exhaustion. Seeing the happy faces on all these young hunters told me "This is why all of us happily volunteered to help with an activity of this nature."

We want to thank Johnny and Linda Everhart as well as

SCI, NWTF, Everhart Sporting Goods, MDC and all other sponsors and volunteers who helped make the a safe and successful clinic.



Debra Kelly, wife of instructor Robert Kelly of Phelps county, took her first deer ever this past season on their 35 acre farm. Not only her first deer, but she took it with archery equipment.

## Why weren't you there?

By: Tony L. Legg

Over the past two plus years I have heard a lot of instructors and staff ask, "When are we going to have another state instructor's conference?" The answer is, you have. This past March, MHEIA has held their third annual Missouri State Instructor's Conference, and it was great. So where were you?

Past state conferences were a joint effort between the MHEIA and MDC, they were not an MDC stand alone conference. The plan when this arrangement started, was that at some point the MHEIA would take over the planning and execution of the whole conference. It was to be an instructor's conference not an MDC conference.

Starting in 2008, the MHEIA took on the sole role of the planning organizing and hosting the conference. MDC took on the role of an invited guest, speaker, or workshop presenter. This past year saw a conference better mirroring the old conferences. Friday night was a meet and greet with silent auctions. Saturday was meetings, guest speakers, vendors and training information just like before. Difference, still not quite as large and it was held in Columbia in March instead of the Lake in January.

MDC is looking into taking a partnership role in the future with MHEIA on an every two or three year basis, but not returning to the old conference format. MDC will be a co-sponsor with MHEIA, not the lead coordinator. MHEIA is the official Missouri instructor organization; we will respect that role and a way for instructors to have an outside voice to



provide input and resolutions to MDC for their membership. MHEIA should not be a one-way communication link for MDC, but should have a partnership relationship similar to the relationship between CFM and MDC.

While we value each instructor and their ideas, instructors need a focused voice with MDC. Being part of an organization that can bring the voice of several hundred of our instructors gives more clarity to voice. So are you a member? If not, why not? MHEIA has been doing great things the past three years and have a plan for the organization moving forward. Membership dues are just \$10, that's a couple cups of coffee. More importantly it's voice can have a direct impact on you as an instructor and our state program. So come on become a member of MHEIA and add your voice.

MHEIA is looking for an instructor to step up and represent the Ozark region on the organization's board, so if you are interested please contact them.

Next year MHEIA has already planned to grow the conference again and add a Sunday morning session like the old conferences. They have asked MDC to put on the hunting incident presentation on that Sunday as we did at past conferences. So, where will you be March 4, 5 & 6, 2011; attending the conference, joining in on the camaraderie, seeing old friends, getting some great information and visiting with vendors. Or will you be sitting at home still asking "When will the next state conference will be held?"

For your regional MHEIA representative or information on becoming a member visit their web site at <http://www.mohuntered.com/> or call (816) 356-6884.

## New Student HE Tests for July 1

Starting July 1, we will be switching to a new, improved test "A" and test "B" for all Hunter Education Classes. These new tests are a result of the recent 12-member HE Test Committee comprised of one representative from each of the regions, one Conservation Agent from each of their two units and a representative from MHEIA and MHFF. At the writing of this article the committee is finishing up a final review of test "B" and each instructor will receive a copy of both in the mail sometime late May or early June.

These new tests both use the same answer key as the current test, so there is no change to the answer order. The committee worked hard and came up with some very good tests that meet minimal IHEA standards for testing.

Each class will use a combination of both "A" and "B" tests when testing students. The test booklets are to be given to the students in alternating order so no student has another student next to them with the same test. Students failing their first test must retest with the opposite test.



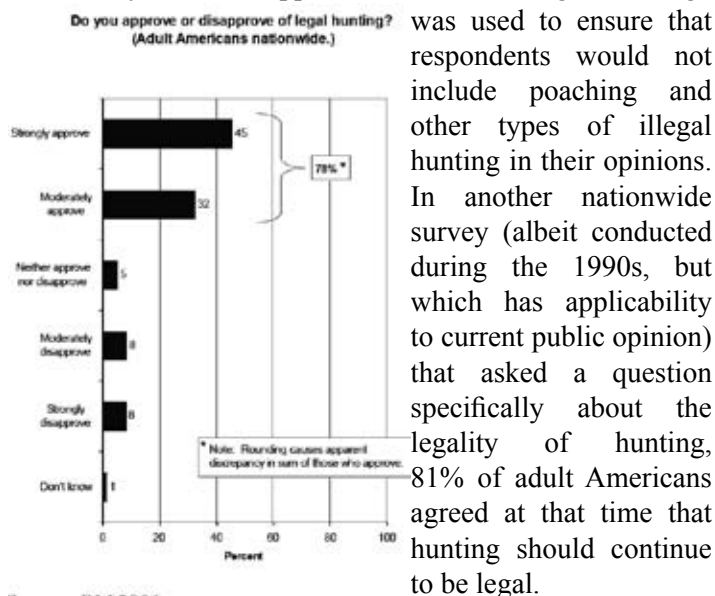
Instructors still have the option to retest students immediately if time allows. Student retesting is still preferred after the student has had time to study and set a date with the instructor, OSS or Conservation Agent to meet and retest within seven days. This allows the instructors to still have their course paperwork submitted within the ten day requirement. Remember, any student failing a second test or not retesting within seven days must retake the entire course.

We think everyone will like the new Multiple choice tests; they are innovative using a combination of straight questions, drawings and narratives which should add some variety to the test for varying types of learners. If you need a scoring machine for your larger classes check with your Regional OSS to schedule one.

## Opinions on Hunting

**The large majority of adult Americans—about three quarters—support or approve of hunting.** From *"The future of Hunting and the Shooting Sports, Responsive Management and NSSF."*

Among the general population who have not hunted in the past 2 years, 73% support legal hunting. A previous nationwide survey found that 78% of all adult Americans approve of legal hunting (with 45% strongly approving), while only 16% disapprove. The term "legal hunting"



## Ozark Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
**Larry Lindeman**  
[larry.lindeman@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:larry.lindeman@mdc.mo.gov)

Thanks to all who attended the three different banquet sites for the Ozark Region's Volunteer Hunter-Ed Instructors Appreciation Banquets. The total attendance was a record high 109. With such a large geographical area to cover, this format seems to be working well. In the future I

may even decide to tweak it a bit more by rotating the sites to make it more convenient for some to attend that otherwise would be unable to do so.

Congratulations are in order for Diane Coughlin, a volunteer instructor who also teaches at Glenwood School, in Howell County. Diane was selected as the Ozark Region's Volunteer Hunter-Ed Instructor of the Year. This selection was based upon not only the number of classes that she either taught or helped to instruct, but also her willingness to assist other instructors when called upon. Diane also "practices what she preaches" by mentoring some of her students in the field during deer season, and by "going the extra mile" when a need for another class becomes apparent.

I am so blessed with outstanding agents in the Ozark Region, it is always difficult to select just one agent, especially when so many are deserving of such recognition. W. T. (Travis) Mills, received the Ozark Region's Agent HED Instructor of the Year. Besides his regular duties, Travis was instrumental in organizing the hunter-ed classes in Texas County as well as assisting the youth of the region with archery programs.

Thank you Diane and Travis for a job well-done. Thanks also to ALL who "carry the Hunter-Ed Torch." The job you do may sometimes seem thankless, but the effort you put forth is priceless, and the good you do is difficult to measure in all aspects. It would be difficult to accomplish the sheer volume of graduates of the program without each of you.

As long as the human factor exists, there will always be hunting incidents as well as a need for good instructors, but understand you ARE making a difference!

Thank you all again, and hopefully the challenge of this year's turkey season will result in a safe, successful hunt, and as always...let's "Keep 'em pointed in a safe direction!"



### *Kansas City Region Sedalia/Clinton District*

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
**Mark Miller**  
[mark.miller@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:mark.miller@mdc.mo.gov)

Greetings from Sedalia and Clinton

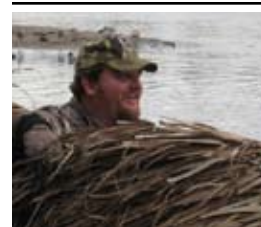
As I am writing this, the sun is shining, and the weather man has promised a 60 degree high for today. The first one I can remember in what seems to have been an endless winter. By the time you read this, however, hopefully we all will have put fish in the boat, and maybe even tagged a turkey or two. Winter will be but a distant memory.

I want to thank all those who attended the banquets at Clinton and Sedalia. The Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor of the year for the Sedalia district was Marc Spunagule. Marc is a teacher at Warsaw High School. He teaches HED as Part

of the curriculum for his classes in Outdoor Sports. He also helps frequently in classes and events throughout the area. In addition to teaching HED he is the coach of the Warsaw MoNASP Archery team, which placed second in the state competition at Linn this past month. In the Clinton district, Dennis Page was selected. Dennis is the principle at Butler Elementary School, in Bates County. Dennis has been an instructor for eight years, and is an integral part of HED, and education in the community. Dennis is retiring this year after thirty years in education. We congratulate him on this outstanding achievement.

I want to thank each of you again for all you do for hunter education, and the professionalism with which you do it. If I can do anything for you let me know.

As Always, Hunt Safe



### *Central Region*

Outdoor Skills Specialist  
**Brian Flowers**  
[brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov)

**Hunter Education Banquet** - A big thank you to all of those who attended the Central Region Instructor Banquet on February 23 in Jefferson City. We had a large turn out with 90 volunteers, staff and family members. During the program Instructor and Executive Director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, Mr. Dave Murphy spoke to the group about the importance of maintaining our hunting heritage and passing it along to the next generation. Dave has spent time in Scandinavia and Europe where he observed that hunting is treated like a relic in a museum and that people have lost their connection to hunting and wildlife. The banquet also provided an opportunity to recognize the outstanding service of instructors and to give out our instructor of the year awards. If you missed this year's event, please don't miss next year's as it will be bigger and better than ever.

**Award Winners** - Congratulations to our Annual Hunter Education Instructor, MDC Instructor & Agent Instructor of the Year 2009. In the category of Agent Instructor of the Year, Sean Ernst from Camden County was chosen. Sean is very active in teaching hunter education, including acting as Chief Instructor for many classes in his county. Sean also does a very good job in supervising all of his volunteer staff in Camden County. Sean examines where classes should be taught and uses all of his resources to meet the growing public demand for hunter education.

In the category of Volunteer Instructor of the Year, Mr. Roger See from Montgomery County was chosen and he is an outstanding volunteer instructor in many ways. Roger is not afraid of hard work, whether its acting as chief instructor of many classes or recruiting a corps of volunteers around Montgomery City to assist him. He has given 110% since



becoming an instructor.

In the new category of MDC Instructor of the Year is Mr. Lee Koester. Lee has worked at the Rocky Fork Shooting Range on a temporary basis during the last two years. Lee's experience as an instructor and range officer has been invaluable to MDC. Lee has contacted thousands of students and shooters during his service to MDC and is always willing to help out wherever he is needed.

I look forward to working with Sean, Roger and Lee to promote hunter education and to serve the public in the upcoming year.



Those receiving service awards included (left to right); Marylyn Overkamp-Gasconade County, Rod Luck-Osage County, Earl Williamson-Callaway County, Kenny Classpille-Montgomery County and Joe Crites-Boone County. Also pictured MDC Director Bob Ziehmer, and Outdoor Skills Specialist Brian Flowers.

**Youth Hunts & Clinics-** Several events have taken place recently in Central Region.



On Saturday, February 27 & 28, MDC staff from Central and Northeast Regions and volunteers with the Missouri Outdoor Experience (MOE) hosted a youth hunt for light geese during the annual conservation order. Ten young hunters took to the field for a safe and enjoyable hunt. Hunters hunted from layout blinds with at least 1,000 decoys over the weekend and a total of four geese were harvested.

On April 10 and 11, MDC will host a spring youth turkey hunt along with volunteers from Missouri Whitetails.com. Youth and their parents will be paired with volunteers for a fun weekend of chasing turkeys.

On May 15, MDC and Missouri Whitetails.com will again host a Discover Nature Families Basic Bowfishing course. This year's course will take place on Truman Lake near

Warsaw. The program is open to families who would like to get outside and enjoy bowfishing together. Anyone interested can sign up by contacting OSS Brian Flowers at (573)882-8388, ext. 288 or by e-mail to [brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov).

**Online Hunter Education Field Days -** Central Region will host online hunter education field days on April 14th, May 19, June 23 and July 14 at the MDC Regional office. If you would like to assist in these events please let me know. Instructors are needed to lead the reviews and oversee the testing stations.

**Shotgun Merit Badge Help Needed -** Want to help out the Boy Scouts? The Great Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America will host their 11th annual Sporting Clays event on August 27-28 at Midway Farms in Howard County. As part of this event a shotgun merit badge program will be held on Friday evening August 27, with shooting to follow on Saturday August 28. If you would like to assist with this important and rewarding program please let me know. The Boy Scouts will be providing lunch for everyone who attends.

**Online Registration for Courses -** Online registration for Hunter Education in Central Region has been running smooth. Instructors & staff continue to be vigilant about checking and submitting the correct information and I really appreciate the extra effort. It's important to remember that all courses in Central Region are handled with online registration now. If you are an instructor who has not tried out the new system but would like to, please contact me so I can train you.

Also, continue to monitor the use of supplies in hunter education classes. Any supplies that are not used during a hunter education class should be returned to your Conservation Agent or to the Regional Office.

**Instructor Recruitment -** If you know of a potential volunteer who is interested in joining our Instructor program please pass along their name to me. There are counties in Central Region that have far too few instructors and we could use some more in those areas.



## Northeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

**Ben Schlader**

[ben.schlader@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:ben.schlader@mdc.mo.gov)

Howdy from the Northeast! Here we are again, changing gears and seasons. I hope everyone has enjoyed the first quarter of 2010 and is looking forward to a safe and productive spring. Winter certainly held on this winter in north Missouri with lots of snow and cold temperatures. With each season though come opportunities, and even in the winter there is



plenty to do. I was involved with some terrific youth hunts this winter and early spring, including a great rabbit hunt put on by the folks in the Macon Quail Forever Chapter. This group is comprised of some real go-getters, and their events, including youth and ladies pheasant, rabbit and raccoon hunts, continue to improve every year. This year's rabbit hunt proved once again that when you have good dogs, great people and a few bunnies to chase it's impossible not to have a fun time!

Another of my favorite events from the past couple months was our youth snow goose hunt, which took place at the end of February. This hunt was a joint venture between Brian Flowers, OSS in the Central Region, and myself. Brian and I were somewhat hesitant to take on this challenge, if you've ever hunter snow geese I'm sure you understand why! But again, with the combination of an awesome group of kids, great parents and some hard working volunteers, the event turned out to be a great success. We were able to harvest four geese and although not all of the kids left with a goose I'm sure they all leave with some great memories and a new found respect for a challenging quarry.



Quail Forever Youth Rabbit Hunt      Youth Snow Goose Hunt

On another note of interest, we did have a frightening near-incident take place few months ago in Clark County. On the last day of Canada goose season a young man made the poor decision to shoot at what he believed was a flock of geese feeding in a corn field. Unfortunately, the geese were actually decoys, and hidden among the decoys were a group of hunters. He fired twice, using a .22 rifle, an illegal firearm to use for waterfowl hunting. One of the rounds struck a blind holding one of the hunters and continued on to penetrate through the first layer of clothing the hunter was wearing. Luckily, the bullet stopped just short of injuring the hunter. This was very nearly a tragedy and bares a scary similarity to an incident that took place in Kansas in 2007. As many of you know, the Kansas incident involved a shooter firing into a decoy spread and striking a young man who unfortunately died from his injuries. The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks has a short training video, entitled "Tragedy at Wright's Creek" and many of you received a copy of this video from our Central Office last year. If you are not already, please make time to feature this short video at your classes. It serves as an excellent example of how incidents are often directly related to improper and often illegal actions.

Thanks once again to all of the Instructors who made the effort to attend one of our two banquets held in February.

Both banquets were well attended and enjoyed by MDC staff, Volunteer Instructors and their families. Congratulations again to all of the hour achievement and Regional Instructor of the Year award recipients.



Amanda Gray, MDC Public Service Assistant, received the NE Region MDC Staff Instructor of the Year Award. Congratulations Amanda!

Thanks again for everyone's hard work, enjoy the season and be safe!



### *Southeast Region*

Outdoor Skills Specialist

*DeeDee Dockins*

*deedee.dockins@mdc.mo.gov*

Instructors, mark your calendar for the upcoming May 15 "Hunter Education Awards Banquet and Shootout!" Our banquet will be held at "The Plaza" in Cape Girardeau and catered by Ray's of Kelso. If you have had Ray's famous kettle beef, you don't want to miss out. However, for discriminating yard bird palettes, we will have chicken too. I will be sending out a packet of information to you next week which will have all of the details for the day.

As of now, those who attended last year's banquets your backpacks should have arrived, yea! This year, your banquet attendance gift is a knife and sharpener, which will be given to you as you leave. I look forward to the banquet and I hope you do too.

If you can work and volunteer to help me get set up or assist with the shoot, please let me know. I hope you had a great turkey season.

Initiation into hunting almost always occurs within the context of family, and some of the greatest satisfactions--without which there would be no initiation--are derived from family relationships while participating in this activity. -- *Resource Management 2007a*



## Southwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists

**Jean Mayer** - Cedar, Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, Barry and McDonald Counties  
[jean.mayer@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:jean.mayer@mdc.mo.gov)



**Greg Collier** - Hickory, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Greene, Webster, Christian, Stone and Taney Counties  
[greg.collier@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:greg.collier@mdc.mo.gov)

On January 11, 20 new volunteer instructors from Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald and Newton Counties attended the certification training held at the Racine Christian Church. Please welcome them into the Southwest Region's group of dedicated instructors.



Pictured, from left to right, top row: Donald Duncan (Joplin); Scott Goswick (Seneca); Jonathan Sage (Neosho); Tony Sage (Neosho); Jeff Selgeby (Seneca)

Second row: Dennis Cole (Neosho); Brian Gayer (Neosho)

Third row: Nathan McDonald (Oronago); Matt Stoller (Joplin); Robert Wyer (Seneca); William Lant (Seneca); Gary Pendergraft (Seneca); Raymond Ferguson (Seneca)

Bottom Row: Tim Williams (Anderson); Faron Hembree (Seneca); Wayne Vance (Neosho); James Cahalan (Joplin); Jeff Kuhnert (Monett); Steve Ruzic (Neosho); Phil Weece (Joplin)

**NEW INSTRUCTORS** – Please remember that after your initial instructor training you must complete ten hours of mentor classroom instruction. Only after completing these hours and reporting them will your Missouri Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor Card and number be issued to you. Please notify Greg Collier, Jean Mayer or Barb Amass if you have completed your mentorship hours. To further assist us, please submit the hours on a Training History Form (provided to you during your instructor training class).

Get involved with Online Hunter Education Field Days! Please contact Greg Collier or Jean Mayer to find out how you can assist.

On January 15, 11 new volunteer instructors attended training at the Southwest Regional Office in Springfield. Please join me in welcoming them to our organization.



From left to right: Russell Alexander, Kelly Madison, Kim Hopper, Candis Akin, Steve Nelson, (back row) Bruce Blakemore, Steven Johnson, Travis Clubb, Todd Riggins, Andy Dalton, and Dan Myers.

This year we decided to offer two separate award banquets, therefore allowing instructors a choice of locations and dates. On March 16, 89 volunteer instructors and their families attended the Hunter Education Instructor Appreciation Banquet held in Joplin. A big thank you goes to all who attended; you helped to make it an enjoyable occasion. Without dedicated instructors like you, our program would not be possible. We sincerely hope more of you will be able to attend our banquets the next time. Guest speaker Patti Redel, Outreach and Education Field Chief, gave a very interesting and informative presentation on the History of Hunter Education in Missouri. Plans are to make this PowerPoint presentation available for instructors to use in their classes. After a fine meal, the following instructors were recognized at the banquet:

### 100 hours- Mug

- Randy Commons (Baxter Springs, KS.); 124 hrs.
- Billy Crabtree (Stockton); 211 hrs.
- Mike Creekmore (Joplin); 120 hrs.
- Mark Estep (Aurora); 115 hrs.
- Tyler Green (Webb City); 117 hrs.
- Lanse Meador (Powell); 111 hrs.
- Randy Vandegrift (Monett); 294 hrs.

### 200 hours- Briefcase

- Steve Allgood (Webb City); 230 hrs.
- Doug Lord (Carthage); 234 hrs.
- Sarah Smith (El Dorado Springs); 231 hrs.
- Randy Vandegrift (Monett); 294 hrs.



- Heather Todd (Willard)
- Robert Todd (Willard)

300 hours - Thermos

- Randy Bussard (Springfield)

400 hours - Knife

- Randy Bussard (Springfield)

500 hours- Binoculars

- Randy Bussard (Springfield)

600 hours- Watch

- Randy Bussard (Springfield)

900 hours- Sculpture

- Steve Baker (Carl Junction); 930 hrs.

1000 hours - Shotgun

- Larry Sunby (Monett)

SW Region 2008 Instructor of the Year

- Randy Bussard

SW Region 2009 Agent Instructor of the Year

- Andy Barnes (Lawrence County)

SW Region & Missouri's 2009 State Instructor of the Year

- Linda DuBrul (Everton)

Service Pins w/ Certificates:

5 yrs.

- Stan Adler (El Dorado Springs)
- Jeff Cantrell (Neosho)
- Karlos Conway (Monett)
- Terry Cook (Neosho)
- Bernie Crosby (Carl Junction)
- Rita Garnett (Stella)
- Robert Haynes (Carl Junction)
- John Littlefield (Diamond)
- Rachele Lord (Carthage)
- Angel Roller (Racine)
- Jeremiah Woolverton (Webb City)

10 yrs.

- Mark Estep (Aurora)

15 yrs.

- Derek Farwell (Stockton)

20 yrs.

- Dan Philbrick (Cassville)

25 yrs.

- Larry Sunby (Monett)

30 yrs.

- John Harp (Cassville)
- Mike Terhune (Stockton)

Special Award for Outstanding Service

- Barb Amass

Interested in volunteering outside the HE classroom? Missouri Volunteer Hunter Education Instructors may earn hours of service by assisting with MDC sponsored events and programs. Approved programs include assisting with youth hunts, disabled hunting events, range programs and events, unmanned shooting range maintenance and monitoring as well as teaching outdoor skills. Please contact Greg or Jean if you're interested in assisting.

Future Volunteer Instructor Training Schedule:

April 10 - Bowhunter Education Class and New Volunteer Bowhunter Education Instructor Class

Location: Main Street Baptist Church, Greenfield

Time: 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. (Please bring a sack lunch)

Registration: Please contact Jean Mayer: (417)895-6881 x 236 or [jean.mayer@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:jean.mayer@mdc.mo.gov)

July 24 – Bowhunter Education Class and New Volunteer Bowhunter Education Instructor Class

Location: Andy Dalton Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Please bring a sack lunch)

Registration: Please contact the Andy Dalton Range (417)742-4361 to register

September 23 – New Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor Class

Location: Southwest Regional Office

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Registration: Please contact Greg Collier: (417)895-6881 x 268 or [greg.collier@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:greg.collier@mdc.mo.gov)



*Kansas City Region,  
KC Metro District*

Outdoor Skills Specialist

David Wyatt

[david.wyatt@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:david.wyatt@mdc.mo.gov)

We started out the year with our Annual Awards Banquet honoring the accomplishments of our instructors.

As always, it was difficult to pick out a few when there are so many that do well. The honor of “KC Metro Region Instructor of the Year” was awarded to William “Jake” Jacoby. Sandra Hedges was entered into the “Regional Instructor Hall of Fame” for her almost 20 years of teaching and over 2,000 hours of instructing experience.

Instructors Michael Mansell, Kenneth Swails, and Andrew Garrard received firearms this year honoring their commitment to Hunter Education.

The beginning of the year is always a time of Sport Shows and Hunting Expos in this area. Instructors spent many weekends making presentations and setting up hunting and firearms safety booths. The KC Chapter of the Safari Club extended an invitation for a booth and instructors responded, utilizing the Missouri Big Buck Display, the Hunter Ed Shotgun Mishaps Display and other information on firearm safety and youth hunts. We were also at two other local events, allowing instructors to contact approximately 2,000 people with the message of firearm safety and conservation.

Instructors also took part in two Youth Upland Bird Hunts that are always fun. To assure the youth were hunting under



realistic conditions, both hunts were conducted on windy, chilly and wet days. Although as is common with pen-raised birds, all did not fly well but those that ran did so well and there were several wild flushes. Instructors served as field safety monitors, and participated in the safety orientations. The only mishap occurred when a couple of hunters and a dog ran into the wrong end of a skunk and paid the price.



## Northwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

*Tim Miller*

*tim.miller@mdc.mo.gov*

Spring is finally here and things have been quite busy in the Northwest region. I would like to say thank you to all the Hunter Education instructors and their families for all the hard work and dedication that make this program the great one that it is. Also, many thanks to the Conservation Agents for their hard work in providing support for this program.

The new year started off with Hunter Education banquets for the Northwest Region. On January 15th we had our Chillicothe district's banquet at the Grand River Inn. We had 41 people present including instructor guests and MDC staff. I am pleased to announce that Andy Fink was Chillicothe district's Hunter Education Instructor of the Year. Andy is an in-service school teacher at Breckenridge. His dedication to his students and to the Missouri Hunter Education Program made him a good candidate for this award. I am also pleased to announce that Conservation agent Ken Polley received the Conservation Agent Hunter Education Instructor of the year for the Chillicothe district. On January 23 we had our St. Joseph District Hunter Education Banquet with about 50 people in attendance. We had an excellent dinner catered by Bandana's BBQ. Bill Bravo was named Volunteer Hunter Education instructor of the Year and Jason Braunecker was the Conservation Agent Instructor of the Year.

On March 6 MDC staff and numerous Hunter Education Volunteers conducted the annual antler measuring day in St. Joseph. This is an event that has been going on in the Northwest region for quite some time now.



The event began in 1968 with antlers being measured in Phil Rice's (former Protection Regional Supervisor) basement. Due to popularity of the event, it was moved to Hatfield's Sporting Goods in 1971. It was moved again in 1986 to East Hills Mall to accommodate for increased security and the



RO Gary Combs and OSS David Wyatt give orientation.



Wet, successful hunters.

Another tradition that seems to be starting is the bad weather we experience for our Online Field Day. Recently, instructors assisting with the March class drove through a blizzard to get there and get home again.

April and May will bring instructors assisting with Youth Jakes Events, youth hunts, the Instructor River Training and Fishing Event as well as instructors going afield themselves.

By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong.  
- Charles Wadsworth

Americans eat a lot of wild game. Americans consume more than 750 million pounds of wild game annually, an amount of meat that is equal to about two million slaughtered cattle. - "The hunter in conservation," a booklet compiled by the Council for Wildlife Conservation and Education, Inc.



need for more room. The promotion of deer hunting safety though the involvement of hunter education is included. This continues to be an annual event held at East Hills Mall. This year volunteer hunter education Instructors staffed a booth handing out hunter education brochures and answering questions. Also instructors staffed a booth with the Laser Shot promoting safe firearms use.



all who worked with him in Jefferson County.

Other highlights of the evening included the Instructor of the Year Awards for 2009. A selection committee was developed in the St. Louis Region to review all nominations submitted and then choose the award winners. This year the honors were presented to three very deserving instructors:



Doug Schmidt from Franklin County received the Hunter Education Instructor of the Year Award



Rex Vaughn from Jefferson County received the Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year Award, and Agent Tim Tallent (picture on the front cover) received the Conservation Agent Instructor of the Year Award. Congratulations to all three instructors and a BIG thank you for your continued dedication to teaching these much needed classes in your communities.

Conservation Agent Tim Tallent was also chosen to represent Missouri as a candidate for the IHEA "Professional of the Year" Award. Hopefully we'll hear soon whether Tim received this award, but we know he will be a strong contender for this high honor.

Some new instructor applicants completed their Instructor Training Course on February 27 and are proceeding to teach their first classes this spring. Please help us welcome the following new instructors in the St. Louis Region: Tara Flynn from Crawford County, Linda Carroll from Franklin County,

### *St. Louis Region*

Outdoor Skills Specialists (to left in order top to bottom)

*Scott Sarantakis, Lincoln-St. Charles-Warren Counties*  
*scott.sarantakis@mdc.mo.gov*

*Dennis Cooke, St. Louis City, St. Louis County*  
*dennis.cooke@mdc.mo.gov*

*Conrad Mallady, Crawford-Franklin-Jefferson-Washington Counties*  
*conrad.mallady@mdc.mo.gov*

The St. Louis Region held its annual Hunter Education Instructor Awards Banquet at the Holiday Inn in Eureka on January 15, 2009. The banquet is a small token of MDC's appreciation to those dedicated individuals who give so much of

themselves every year to teach hunter education classes. Among the awards presented were the firearms for the 1,000 hour recipients who were: Peggy Ragland, Bill Bicker and Michael Swink. Thank you all for your continued dedication to teaching hunter education in your communities. Dennis Arnold also earned his 1,000 hour award right at the time he and his family moved to the state of California. Dennis will attempt to maintain his certification through occasional visits, but his presence and teaching ability will be missed by

Ed Beingesser II and Jason Knobloch from Jefferson County and Jim Daniels, Lee Fisher, John Kuhn, Jerry Smith and Mike Thomas all from St. Charles County.

With the recent personnel reductions in the St. Louis region, Dennis Cooke is now managing both St. Louis City and County for hunter education. St. Louis City and County Hunter Education Instructors will need to contact the Forest Park office for class supplies at (314)877-1309. Scott Sarantakis will assume the responsibilities of Kurt Otterstein for Lincoln, Warren and St. Charles Counties and can be contacted at the Powder Valley Office at (314)301-1500.



### *Busch Range & Outdoor Ed Center*

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
**Eric Edwards**  
[eric.edwards@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:eric.edwards@mdc.mo.gov)



Greetings, we've been able to pick up a few new volunteers in this past quarter; if you have a chance to come out to the range and introduce yourself to these new folks I'm sure you'll enjoy getting to know them. As always we are looking for more volunteers so if you have some free time on your hands give me a call or send me an e-mail. I will list a few of our programs that are coming up in the next couple of months, if any interest you, as either a instructor or student, please call and sign up early. Also pictured below is Don Draper receiving his award for Range Volunteer of the year for the St. Louis Region. Don received this award at our first ever Range Volunteer Banquet held in January of 2010. We have named this award the "Terry McCarty Award of Excellence" If you see Don at the range, in the classroom or just out and about please congratulate him on receiving this inaugural award he worked very hard to receive this.



### **May**

8 - Bow Hunter Education Class 8:30 a.m.

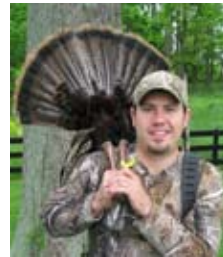
15- Discover Nature; Families: Basic Archery 9:00 a.m.  
19 - Discover Hunting; Quail Habitat 6:00 p.m.

### **June**

3 & 5 - Basic Handgun 6:00 p.m.  
14 thru 18 - Hunter Education Day Camp 8:30 – 3:30  
HELP NEEDED  
21 thru 25 - Cub Scout Camp 3:00 p.m.  
HELP NEEDED

### **July**

13 thru 15 - Discover Hunting Camp 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
HELP NEEDED  
20 - Basic Skeet 6:00 p.m.  
24 - MDC OUTDOOR EXPO. 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



### *Henges Range & Outdoor Ed Center*

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
**Jake Hindman**  
[jake.hindman@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:jake.hindman@mdc.mo.gov)



By the time you are reading this article, turkey season will be a memory and summer will have set in. But, as I write, spring is just upon us and turkey season is two weeks away. I am immediately reminded of past memories and laugh at myself because it seems that the spring and fall seasons are not counted in my book by the year they correspond with but by how turkey and deer season went and what memories were made. I will never forget last spring when my dad had found a mushroom that measured 14 inches along with 75 + others around the same tree, of course not all of them were as large but we certainly ate morels for several meals. The memories are not always good, but in many cases there are things to be learned. One such memory occurred last spring and I thought I would share the story with you. Feel free to share in your hunter education classes; it fits in well with chapter 7.

It was Saturday May 2, and the weekend had called for rain. After obtaining permission from the landowner, my brother-in-law and I decided to set up a blind on the neighbor's property in hopes of tagging his first adult gobbler. I knew the field well, and I also knew a bird had been using that field. We set up the blind about 50 yards from where the gobbler had been landing. On Sunday morning it was raining, and I was glad that we had set up the ground blind. While walking to our set up I noticed someone in the field putting up decoys in front of my blind! As I approached I also noticed someone sitting inside! To my amazement two guys had decided to hunt in my blind. They had claimed that they had been hunting on this farm for several mornings and came in this morning, noticed a blind and decided to hunt in it. These two individuals never apologized and in fact decided to hunt



about 100 yards down the field edge from us. Ironically a gobbler flew down, landed right by the decoys walked in and my brother-in-law harvested the turkey; stranger things have happened.

Most importantly my daughter, Hailey, was born on April 16, 2009 and as a result my Kansas turkey hunting trip this spring will be cut one day short due to a one-year birthday party. I do realize that my wife might read this newsletter so I will leave it at that.

I hope you have made some great memories this past spring. Go tie on a hook and get some worms or crickets because I bet the bluegill spawn is on.

For a list of programs for upcoming months please visit our website at [www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges).

I urge you to take a first-timer out hunting and mentor them along the way, you will be glad you did.

I plan to include pictures and re opening details of our rifle and pistol range for the next newsletter.



### *Andy Dalton Range & Outdoor Education Center*

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
**Mike Brooks**  
[mike.brooks@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:mike.brooks@mdc.mo.gov)



On March 6, 2010 at the Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association Conference, I was honored to make a presentation to attendees on how to set up and manage a hunt for people with disabilities. I received a warm welcome and always appreciate the opportunity to share some time with such a professional group of individuals. If you are not already a member of the MHEIA, I would encourage you to check out their website at <http://www.mohuntered.com/> and get involved with your state association.

On March 30, 2010 the range staff and I attended the SW Regional 2008 Hunter Education Awards Banquet. I applaud Greg Collier and Barbara Amass for their dedication to the program as it was one of the very best banquets I have attended. The highlight for me was being able to hear Mr. Alan Reed, the 2009 Staff Hunter Education Instructor of the year give the keynote speech regarding why we do what we do.

It was especially good to see and visit with many of my friends again at the banquet. The Department is tremendously fortunate to have such a dedicated group of volunteers who give up so many hours to do their part to keep hunting safe in Missouri. Furthermore, these individuals do everything they can to promote the recruitment and retention of new people into the outdoors through their efforts. Whether it is coaching a new shooter to breaking their first clay target or

teaching them how to skin a raccoon or perhaps how to tie on a fishing hook, these folks always get the job done.

One of the most rewarding events for me personally as well as professionally is our Day at the Range event for people with disabilities. It is scheduled for June 19, 2010 and we are always looking for Hunter Education Instructors to help run the shooting portions of that day long event. If you can assist us please call the range so we can get you added into the mix of volunteers.

I hope that by the time you read this article all of you have made some time to get outdoors to hunt mushrooms, catch a few white bass or crappie, or chase ol' tom around the woods. After all, that too is why we do what we do and what a reward for helping to keep folks safe.



### *Parma Woods Range & Outdoor Ed Center*



Outdoor Education Center Supervisor  
**Nathan Woodland**  
[nathan.woodland@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:nathan.woodland@mdc.mo.gov)

Hope all is well, and everyone had a safe enjoyable hunting season. Lot of things are happening at Parma Woods this summer. We are currently in the process of standardizing our volunteer program to be more like the ones that are found at the Nature Centers and other Interpretive Sites. With this transition we have several volunteer openings available. Positions include Line Officer and Conservation Educator. For more information on these positions or other opportunities, call me at (816)891-9941.

Also, Range Officer Russell Atchley has announced his retirement from the Department of Conservation after a seven-year career. I want to thank you Russell for your dedicated service to Parma Woods Range. As I write this, definite retirement plans are still up in the air, but I am sure that he will have more time that he can now devote into being a Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor. While enjoying his retirement, Russell will continue to work part-time at the range for a while. Be sure you all stop in and wish him well.

As always, we are offering a full line up of outdoor skills classes this summer. If you would like to help with any of these, or sign-up to attend just call the range at (816)891-9941.

#### **May Classes**

- 5 - Discover Nature Families - Mushroom Hunting
- 6 - .22 Plinking
- 7 - HOLIDAY - RANGE CLOSED
- 12 & 13 - Bowhunter Education Class
- 15 & 22 - Hunter Education Class

- 19 - Firearm Selection for the Beginner
- 20 - Catfishing Seminar
- 26 - Discover Nature Families - Intro to Fly Fishing
- 27 & 29 - Discover Hunting - Basic Firearms
- 31 - HOLIDAY-RANGE CLOSED

### June Classes

- 2 - Discover Nature Families - Tree ID
- 7 thru 11 - Hunter Education Day Camp
- 12 - Regional Volunteer Training
- 17 - .22 Plinking
- 19 - Bowhunter Education Instructor Training
- 16 - Discover Nature Women - Beginning Archery
- 30 - Discover Hunting - Intro to Shotgun Shooting

### July Classes

- 1 & 3 - Discover Nature Women - Intro to Firearms
- 5 - HOLIDAY - RANGE CLOSED
- 7 & 8 - Discover Hunting - Intro to Muzzleloaders
- 21 - Discover Nature Families - .22 Plinking
- 24 - Youth Air Rifle
- 28 - Intro to Wildlife Foods
- 29 & 31 - Discover Hunting - Intro to Handguns

### August Classes

- 4 & 5 - Discover Nature Families - Intro to Fly Tying
- 6 - Discover Nature Women - Froggin' Clinic
- 11 & 12 - Bowhunter Education Class
- 14 - Intro to Rifle Shooting
- 18 & 19 - Rifle Shooting for the Hunter
- 25 & 26 - Discover Hunting - Dove Clinic
- 27 - Discover Hunting - Shotgun Patterning
- 28 - Basic Archery

Until next time, Hunt Safe.

## INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS

IHEA has a central web page that lists discount offers to instructors. This webpage can be found at <http://www.ihea.com/instructors/special-offers-for-instructors.php>, or go to [www.ihea.com](http://www.ihea.com), click the Instructors tab on the green bar, then click Special Offers For Instructors.

You don't have to be a member of IHEA (although it is encouraged) to receive a discount. All instructors qualify, but the vendor will require that they provide current documentation/instructor card to prove that they are a state currently certified HE instructor.

Username: instructor  
Password: gohunt

NBEF has a central webpage that lists discount offers to instructors. This webpage can be found at <http://www.nbef.org/instructor.html> (yes, instructor is mis-spelled) or you can go to their home page at <http://www.nbef.org> and click on Instructor Section. Password is wadsworth.



### Because You Asked?

#### ***I heard something about HE & BHE class registration going online for students?***

Yes, regions are going to set up training for instructors and staff and plan a transition schedule for implementation. Central and St. Louis regions have been piloting this since August 2009 and provided valuable input and numerous changes to make it more user friendly for students, instructors and staff. We also completed briefings on this upcoming transition in each region during the months of March & April.

Instructors will be able to go online and set up classes, then their OSS approve them and they immediately are posted on the internet. Students register all information online, at home, local, county or school libraries, school computer labs, using friends and family computers, at work or by their cell phone web browser. Instructors can follow along and see how their class is growing, send e-mail greetings, updates or reminders to students or assistant instructors, congratulate and send out thanks, etc.

This system will replace all bubble forms, rosters, class pre-registration forms, scanning and thousands of man-hours in forms handling and processing. There will be exceptions and workarounds for courses held for our Amish and Mennonite communities. Other needs will be handled on a cases-by-case basis by the regions.

Instructors can find out more information by contacting their regional OSS.

**I look to the future because that's where I'm going to spend the rest of my life. - George Burns**

### **Continuing the Call for E-mail Addresses**

We are continuing our call for e-mail addresses of instructors. If you have not been receiving e-mails from us simply send an e-mail to [tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov) with your name and request to be added to the instructor group list. You will be able to then receive immediate updates on training, materials, instructor offers and discounts, information, notices, web links, etc. without having to wait on the next newsletter (especially now that we are going to only three times a year) to find out new information. Please ensure your spam blocker and firewall has Tony Legg's e-mail address as exempt, otherwise your blocker may reject the e-mail due to it going to so many addresses.





**T**here is exciting news for Kansas City area shooting and hunting enthusiasts. It is the newly constructed Lake City Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center.

**W**e're getting a lot of new people to the shooting sports and this will be a wonderful addition to the sport. New shooters comprise 50 percent of our visitors.

**I**f you are a hunter, an aspiring hunter or a shooting enthusiast you will no doubt be fired up the first time you visit the state-of-the-art facility, just off Highway 7 on East Truman Road. Surrounded by the *William Landahl Park*, it fittingly is one of the most environmentally sound ranges in the country. It also sits on about 60 acres of lush forests and fields.

**T**he New Lake City Range and Outdoor Education Center was made possible by a partnership with MDC and Jackson County Parks and Recreation.

**T**he 100 yard range has a whopping 20 shooting booths with target lines at 25, 50, 75 and 100 yards. There also is an observation area directly behind each booth, where friends and family can watch. In addition to excellent lighting, the range has a concrete floor, baffles, walls and a special bullet trap that will not only make it exceptionally safe but environmentally friendly. The entire target area has a large, metal trap at the rear of the range that funnels all projectiles into holding bins. This means all the lead and copper from fired bullets are collected and can be recycled.

**T**he new features on this range allows us to better control lead and other contaminants that are associated with shooting.

**T**he 25 yard range is a smaller version of the 100 yard facility. There are 10 booths with target lines at 7, 15, and 25 yards and like the 100 yard range, it also has a bullet trap.

**I**n addition to its 100 and 25 yard ranges, the facility also offers a 10- to 60-yard archery range with 12 positions for the devoted archer. And there's good news for shotgun aficionados with the addition of trap and skeet shooting overlay ranges.

**O**kay, so you are a hunting or shooting wannabe? Well, there is great news for you. The new Lake City also sports an Outdoor Education Center that hits the bulls-eye when it comes to providing hunting education, shooting, firearms safety and many other instructional programs.

**I** know the shooting public will really be pleased. It's the whole package. For Missouri, not just the Kansas City area, this is the dream.

*Steve Elliott  
Outdoor Education Center Supervisor*

28505 E Truman Road, Buckner, Mo 64016

**816-249-3149**

[www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/lakecity/](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/lakecity/)





## When I Grew Up.

*By: Dan VanDerhoef, Andy Dalton Range Assistant*

Growing up I spent most of my time outdoors. I spent a lot of hours in a tilled garden playing with my Tonka trucks and getting dirt on my favorite brown shorts. A few years later, I enjoyed spending most of my time fishing Shoal Creek in southwest Missouri and local farmers' ponds.

Upon my father's good advice, I practiced with my BB gun in the yard on a homemade target. Later, when I was proficient with my BB gun, my dad let me use my family's Anschutz .22 rifle. My grandfather acquired it in Germany while he was serving in the army to give us the freedoms that we Americans enjoy today.

Along with playing sports and tromping around in the Mark Twain National Forest, chasing rabbits and squirrels were some of my favorite pastimes. I couldn't wait to turn 11 and take my hunter education class so I could go deer hunting with my family. I turned 11, took the class at my school library in the evenings and passed. Man, was I excited for the following fall deer season to come!

My parents bought me a Savage model 24, over and under, .30-30 rifle and 20 gauge shotgun that I was going to use when the time came. My grandpa hand-loaded some good shooting .30-30 rounds for the top side, and shot a couple of 20-gauge slugs to see if it was shooting where the iron sites were pointing. I had my hunter education certification, I had applied for my deer tags and received them in the mail. My rifle was zeroed in and we had scouted my prospective hunting spot. I was excited and ready to go!

The excitement that I felt for that upcoming fall deer season is the same excitement that I feel today when preparing for one of my favorite programs at the Andy Dalton shooting range and outdoor education center. It is a managed deer hunt for people with disabilities. This was the sixth year for us to put on this event, and I think it may have been our best.

We always have a pre-hunt clinic to explain the timeline of the hunt and give them the opportunity to shoot a little bit before the hunt. It is also a great opportunity for the hunters without assistants of their own to meet the one that we have found for them. We have a great group of volunteers consisting of hunter education instructors, range volunteers, and volunteers from the local NWTF. They assist on the hunt or around the facility with logistic support.

We prepare various ways for to hunt. We use pop-up blinds that can transfer into a truck or utility vehicle. We also have built some blinds on trailers for hunters who are not able to transfer out of their chairs. On the two days of the hunt, the hunters arrive at 5:00 am, so we can make sure they have their tags and hunter orange, and then have a short safety briefing.

Breakfast and lunch is provided by the Southwest Center for Independent living. They prepare breakfast coolers with lots of good food to keep the hunters in the field for as long

as possible. Everyone has a cooler as they head toward their hunting spot. All hunters are at their destinations well before sunrise to see and hear the daytime wildlife wake up and the nighttime ones bed down. They are to stay afield for as long as they can, then come in for lunch that is prepared for them by more volunteers. After lunch, when everyone is done swapping their stories, it is back to the field for those who need a second chance at a deer.

A few days prior to the 2009 hunt, it was warm and very rainy. Then it cleared and cooled, which is great weather to make the deer move. We had 15 hunters and lots of "firsts."

On our hunt, they are allowed two tags, one any deer and one antlerless tag. We had one young man, 19, that had deer hunted a few times before, but had never harvested a deer. He was lucky enough to be able to get his first deer on our hunt. It was a doe, and he and his father both had big smiles on their face.

One of the other hunters was in a car accident about 10 years ago and hasn't been in an elevated deer stand since. We have a hydraulic hunting blind that elevates to about 20 feet. This was the blind from which he hunted and harvested two antlerless deer. I think that the confidence and spirit lifted both him and his assistant during the hunt.

We had two other hunters get their first deer this year as well. A 52-year-old man took two antlerless deer. A woman, 34, who had hunted before but wasn't able to use her tag, took two antlerless deer also. Both were very excited that they were able to have a fun and successful hunt.

We had our first non-resident apply and draw to hunt. He was able to take a buck and a doe. He was smiling from ear to ear, because he purchased an out-of-state, non-resident managed deer hunt tag.

Two other hunters were lucky enough to be able to wrap their tags around antlerless deer each also. They both had taken deer before but were very excited to be able to tag another. As for the other hunters all but one hunter had an opportunity to tag deer.

On our past hunts, we have always been successful in harvesting deer, but four was the most that we had ever taken. This year it was eleven! J & L custom processing has been very good to the program by reducing the cost of the processing, and Bass Pro Shops was very generous to pay for the processing this year.

Overall, the hunt went very well. It's a lot of work to get everything prepared prior to the hunt to make everything run smoothly, but it is well worth it. We see the smiles and bright eyes of the hunters when they tell the stories about all of the wildlife they see on their outing. Whether it was birds, bobcats, or deer everyone had a good story to tell. That is when we are full of smiles and bright eyes ourselves!

All of the interaction with helping other hunters really had me fired up to head to the woods myself! I was lucky enough to draw a Colorado mule deer buck tag; it took me four years

to finally get drawn in the unit that we wanted to hunt! My uncle and I met eight of our hunting buddies, three from here in Missouri, two from Georgia, and three from Florida. Some had mule deer buck tags, and some had bull elk tags. It was great to see our friends from the southeast that we don't get to see very often. The weather was warm the first few days, and we were seeing quite a few does and small to average bucks, not the thumper I was hoping to see. In the middle of the week, it snowed a couple of inches and that really made the animals move! That week we were able to get four mule deer bucks, and one bull elk. I was one of the lucky ones who harvested a buck!

Here in Missouri, I was only able to bowhunt three days prior to the regular firearms season. I had a few close calls, but wasn't able to release an arrow. I had to work the opening weekend of firearms season, so didn't get a full day of hunting in until the next Monday, which was cool and rainy, but I was going to be out there all day no matter what the weather was doing.

I saw a handful of does and a few small bucks, but nothing I wanted to wrap my tag around that early in the season. I took a day off from work, and a buddy and I went near Cole Camp and hunted for the day. In the morning, I saw two does and five bucks. One was a nice eight point with a broken left main beam, so I let him go. That afternoon I went to the next ridge over and had a group of does moving through. After them, a single doe was being pushed through by a buck.

At first glance I knew it was one that I would like to get a clear shot at! I was lucky, the doe came right through my shooting lane with the buck right behind her. I grunted to get them to stop, and luckily they did. I made a good shot, and he didn't go far at all!

My buddy wasn't very far away and when he heard me shoot, he called my cell phone to make sure it was me. While we were talking, I heard another deer coming up the same trail. Wouldn't you know, it was a bigger buck than the one I had just shot! I grabbed my camera and "shot" him as he passed through my shooting lane at about fifty yards.

During the antlerless season I was able to get a big doe. I processed it and donated it to a family in need of some venison for their freezer.

I also had the chance to waterfowl hunt a couple of times with some friends at Four Rivers Conservation Area and Stockton Lake. In late January, we went on our annual hog hunt, and also went deep sea fishing in Georgia then threw in a catfishing trip in Oklahoma in the month of February.

Overall I had a good fall season, and a good start to the spring season. Turkey season is just around the corner. It'll be here before we know it!

**We rarely think people have good sense unless they agree with us.**

- Francois de La Rochefoucauld

# 50 YEARS

## *Missouri's Modern Turkey Hunting Season Turns 50 years old, 1960 -- 2010*

Don't forget to get your pictures and stories together from this past spring season and send in for possible printing in the next newsletter. Due date for photos and articles is August 1, 2010.

E-mail your pictures or stories to [tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov) or mail your photo copies and stories to Missouri Department of Conservation, c/o Hunter Education Coord., PO Box 180 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180.

Hunting saves trees. Hunting is currently permitted on more than 90% of the roughly seventy million acres of woodlands managed by the forest products industry. Why? Because hunting deer alleviates over-browsing of the trees the timber industry is growing. The side benefit is that songbirds and other species gain too.

## *Our New Instructors for Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Courses.*

## *Welcome New Instructors!*

These new instructors have completed their training, 10-hour mentorship teaching certification and background checks (Dec '09 - Mar '10) and are ready to teach and start accruing hours. So all you senior instructors out there, be the great mentors we know you are. Get with your OSS and make contact with these folks and get them involved now. If you recognize any of these folks who might live near you, please give them a call and ask if you can help them get started. Remember, it is always appreciated when you lend a helping hand.

### **Central Region**

#### Camden County

Christopher Lanier - HE

### **Kansas City Region**

#### Cass County

Jason Brown - HE

Zachery Davis - HE

John Powell - HE

Dakota Wilson - HE

Jason Brown - HE

Joseph Kubicki - HE

Kevin Montemayor - HE

#### Jackson County

Greg Hamlin - HE

#### Platte County

Mitchell Atchison - HE

Jacob Burton - HE

### **Northeast Region**

#### Buchanan County

Benjamin Schumacher - HE

#### Dekalb County

Cooper Jacobs - HE

Georja Kriebs - HE

### **Southwest Region**

#### Barry County

Shyrah Boyle - HE

#### Newton County

Wayne Vance - HE

### **St. Louis Region**

#### Warren County

Jordan Miller - HE

# NORTH AMERICAN MODEL OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

*Best effort to conserve and manage wildlife that the world has ever seen.*



- Wildlife is Held in Public Trust
- Eliminating Commerce in Dead Wildlife
- Allocating Wildlife Use Through Law
- Hunting Opportunity for All
- Wildlife May be Killed Only for Legitimate Reasons
- Wildlife is an International Resource
- Science is the Basis for Wildlife Policy

*"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value." — Theodore Roosevelt*